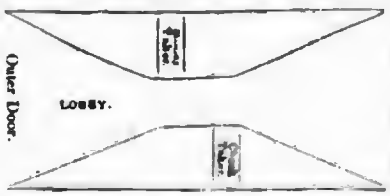
be perfect, but this the rapid business of the piece prevents.

Music appears to over-ride everything just now but the "Papal Aggression," and this fact came forcibly before us on the night that Exeter Hall was opened by the Sacred Harmonic Society. We went there on that evening in consequence of illustrating the new roof, and found the enormous apartment crowded in every part,—let us say there were at least 2,000 persons there. Circumstances led us to go thence to Jullien, at *Drury-lane*, and here, where we thought, almost as a matter of course, we should find a solitude, there were at least 3,000 persons listening to the stirring strains which he ever manages to pour out before his audience. To make the note perfect, we posted away to the *National Concerts*, and there (a greater rarity, by the way, for the public have wisely stood by the old original) a dense crowd also filled every part,—another 3,000 at least,—so that here were 8,000 persons (we should be nearer the mark if we said 10,000) listening to music at the same moment, on that evening.

The sight of the week, however, has been the *Cattle Show at the Baker-street Bazaar*, where, by the way, some additional apartments have been added, under the direction of Mr. Boulnois, architect. The crowds who have flocked here during the week give some faint notion of the flood of life that will visit the great Exhibition in 1851. The collection of implements and means to economise labour and increase productiveness in farms should not be disregarded by architects and builders. It would be wise for some of the former to turn their attention to farm buildings, wherein great want of knowledge is now too often shown. The farmers are beginning to stir.

A correspondent, "D." has written us on the subject of entrances to theatres and public buildings. He says, "The ground-floor entrances to our theatres are *always* attended with inconvenience; *frequently* with destruction and loss of apparel; and *sometimes* with personal injury: and so long as the lobbies or avenues retain their present form, the continuance of these evils appears inevitable. It has occurred to the writer, that if the lobby was gradually narrowed from the outer door to the money-taker (as shown in the annexed diagram),



so as to allow but one person to pass, and again widened (in order to afford equal facilities for leaving the house) from the check-taker until the main entrance was effected, much less inconvenience would be sustained, and the side pressure entirely avoided. It would also be desirable that the money-taker should be on the visitor's left hand, and the check-taker on the right—the reverse of these positions being more generally selected.

The plan suggested by the diagram may not be entirely free from objection, but should it draw attention to the subject, and thereby ensure increased facilities of *getting in* and *coming out* of our public buildings, the object of the writer will be attained."

The money-taker and check-taker are too near. The temptation to dishonesty in such posts is always strong enough, and should not be increased by facilities.

THE CAMBRIDGE MONUMENT.—It has been resolved, at a meeting of the subscribers, held in the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on 3rd inst. that this much-talked-of monument shall consist of an asylum for widows of private soldiers and non-commissioned officers,—the building, as explained, "to contain twenty inmates, each to have two rooms; each costing 1,500*l.*, with cost of erection of kitchen in common, washhouse in common, general dining-room, coals, candles," &c. A revenue of 1,600*l.* is calculated on to sustain such an institution, were it once built, as "a monument to the good Duke of Cambridge."

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

AT the meetings on Nov. 26 and Dec. 3, the discussion on Mr. Struvé's paper on "The Ventilation of Collieries, theoretically and practically considered," was continued, to the exclusion of any other subject. The difficulties found in using mechanical exhausters were attributed in a great degree to the small size of the inlet and outlet valves, and the improvements introduced by Dr. Arnott in the apparatus for ventilating the New County Hospital, at York, were instanced as examples of the necessity for using curtain valves, of large area, for the machines, as it had been found that as the dimensions of the valves were increased, the power required to work the machines diminished. The application of small water-power engines, like those made by Mr. Armstrong (of Newcastle) for giving motion to the ventilating machines, was recommended as very effective and most economical.

On the 10th inst. the discussion on Mr. Struvé's paper was continued throughout the evening. The steam jet, in its application to the upcast shaft, was again considered: it was argued, that, like the furnace, it did not produce any pulsation in the current of air which was so very wasteful of the power for giving motion to all means of mechanical ventilation, and, therefore, that by the accepted laws of physics, the steam jet setting in motion a body of air which continued to flow without intermission through the galleries and the upcast shaft, subject only to the deduction for the pressure of the atmosphere, and the friction of the column of air on the surface over which it passed.

In summing up the discussion, the evidence given before the House of Lords, in 1849, was again minutely analysed, with the view of showing that the deductions previously drawn were not correct, inasmuch as the results obtained were owing to temperature, and not to the exhaustion created by the steam jet. The published opinion of M. Combes,—"that the useful effect of the steam employed to produce the motion of the air, by projecting it into a tube, is in all cases much below what it is capable of producing when applied to a steam-engine working mechanical ventilators of the most imperfect description," was quoted in support of these views.

INTIMIDATION BY WORKMEN.

THE glazier, St. Clair, who, on a former occasion, was charged at Marlborough-street, on the part of Messrs. Fox and Henderson, with threatening, while at the head of fifty fellow-workmen on strike, to make Mr. Fox repent his refusal to listen to what he had to say, has been again brought up, on a charge of attempting to force Mr. Fox to make an alteration in his mode of carrying on the business of his firm at the Exhibition Building, Hyde-park.

After some technical objections were disposed of, Mr. Bingham, at an adjourned hearing, gave judgment to the following effect:—

"I am clearly of opinion that the defendant has endeavoured to force the prosecutor, by threats, intimidation, and molestation, to make an alteration in the mode of conducting his business; and that the offence was complete in the letter which the prosecutors received,* and confirmed and repeated in what passed at the subsequent interview. To put any other construction on the defendant's proceeding would render a dead letter a statute which has been a great advantage to workmen as well as employers. It is to be regretted that the defendant has overlooked the fact that this statute (6th of Geo. IV., cap. 129, sec. 3) has abolished all the restraints to which workmen were formerly subject, and, short of intimidation or violence towards man or master, has given them the uncontrolled arrangement of their own affairs. It is to be regretted that they have overlooked the fact that no instance can be found of any attempt to regulate the rate of wages by violence or intimidation that has not proved in a short time disastrous to the workmen. The judgment of the Court is that, under the 6th of Geo. IV., for this offence the defendant be imprisoned for two months, without hard labour."

With the view, as was understood, of appealing against this decision, a copy of the judgment and conviction was demanded.

* In respect to this letter the magistrate said—"It has been proved that on Friday evening, the 22nd of November, a body of nearly fifty glaziers quitted the employment of Messrs. Fox and [illegible] that on Monday morning Mr. Fox received a letter from the defendant, in which, after characterising the communication as simply private, he proceeds—'I wish it, however, successfully, if I can, between you and your men, if I am successful, I shall be happy, and the matter shall rest where it is; if not, you must sustain the consequences.' He then goes on, 'This is to inform you that, unless you consent to the proposal of your manager, Mr. Cochrane, to the glaziers, and come to a fair and honourable arrangement with the glaziers in your employment, that they not only shall be enabled to earn a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, but put such work to as shall bear inspection and satisfy all, the following advertisement shall appear in the London papers of to-morrow morning [illegible] William St. Clair, pronounce that the building in Hyde-park is being botched by a system of sub-contracting.' That it will therefore be worthless and unsafe [illegible] the matter will be disgraced unless this matter [illegible] Now this is not to be intended as a vague threatening to intimidate, but that the candid advice of one of your workmen, who has the honour to be a gentleman as well as a glazier."

THE CHOIR OF YORK MINSTER.

I WAS recently in the North, and on Sunday, the 24th November, a day which your readers will remember as peculiarly Novemberish, I went to the morning service in York Minster. In the choir there are on each side, the stalls, two closed pews, and two open seats. As I was not known, and am indifferent about such matters, I took a place in one of the latter.

Now let your readers think of the supreme beauty of this building, and then turn to the state of the choir.

There is not a bit of matting of any sort to cover the stones; there are no cushions on the open seats; there is no accommodation for kneeling. Between the pulpit and the communion-table, a very long space, there is a series of common school deal forms, without backs. So that "the people" are expected to go to this architecturally superb temple on a November day, and sit with their feet on the cold stones, without cushions to the seats, and without backs to lean against.

The contrast between the fine work of the screens and the deal forms is peculiarly offensive. And I may mention, although not in your way, that Archdeacon Musgrave preached a sermon at least one-third too long.

DAVID SINGLEHEART.

*** Our correspondent here describes the state of other cathedrals besides York. Last Sunday we attended service in Bristol Cathedral, and have suffered from it ever since. David Singleheart's letter would apply *verbatim*.—ED.

THE FEVER-STILLS AT WORK AGAIN

WE are not only astonished, but indignant and disgusted, to see it announced, that "the cholera having now entirely disappeared, and every fear on the subject of the public health having subsided," several of the City graveyards are about to be re-opened. What a merciless, remorseless pursuit is that of money-making! How loathsome is the hollow show of reason with which the unscrupulous actual motive is glossed recklessly over. This is winter: the cholera-agitation has subsided: now is the time to mount again on the municipal shoulders off which we were shaken in the time of fear! Such is the secret thought of the traffickers in corruption. That the bodies so trafficked in will only be rife, rotten, and ready for the stew and distillation of the coming summer, is nothing to them. That thousands and tens of thousands will be tainted with the fever-poison, and themselves fermented into rotten leaven of corruption to poison and ferment still more and more,—what is all that to them? Let us eat, drink, and be merry, whoever may die. *Sauve qui peut.* Even for these prescriptive rights we had some respect, but what respect have they for our prescriptive right to live and breathe untainted air? The more now indicated will, we sincerely trust, precipitate the doom of the fever-stills, one and all, within "the bills of mortality"—within the limits of metropolitan life. The Legislature must look to it without fail as soon as it meets. Where is Mr. Walker? Is he put out of heart by the neglect he has found?

PICTORIAL CHRONOLOGY IN BAVARIA.—It is stated that the King of Bavaria has formed the design of causing to be executed a series of pictures on subjects derived from the annals of all times and all nations—the whole being destined to form a sort of pictorial universal chronology.